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NEWS, NOTES AND REVIEWS

Dr. W. H. Rankin, of the department of plant pathology of Cornell University, who has in recent years devoted considerable time to chestnut canker investigations, spent July 16–18 at the Garden consulting the mycological herbarium.

Another name for the fungus which often attacks the plane-tree in spring, causing its young leaves to wither, has been discovered by A. Tonelli, who concludes that *Microstroma Platani* Eddelb. & Engelke, as well as *Gloeosporium nervisequum*, is a stage of *Gnomonia veneta*.

H. von Schrenk, in the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* for May, 1914, describes a heart-rot of the mesquite in Texas caused by *Inonotus texanus* and a trunk disease of the common lilac in the vicinity of St. Louis caused by *Coriolus versicolor*. Excellent plates accompany the descriptions.

A. Maublanc and E. Rangel have recently studied the fungous parasite of coffee known as *Stimblum flavidum* and have decided that it is the sterile form of a fungus to which they give the name *Omphalia flava*. They find that the parasite easily spreads without the recurrence of the perfect form.

In a recent number of the *Journal of Agricultural Research*, W. H. Long gives very complete descriptions and illustrations of the heart-rot caused by *Aurantiporus Pilota*, attacking oak and chestnut, and *Grifola Berkeleyi* and *Grifola frondosa*, attacking the base of the trunk and the larger roots of species of oak.

Dr. H. Hasselbring visited the Garden July 15 on his way to Europe. He was formerly engaged in mycological studies and is at present making extensive investigations into the cause of rot in

sweet potatoes. He finds that drying the potatoes quite thoroughly before storing them largely prevents decay.

Mr. Edward T. Harper continues his report on species of *Pholiota* in the region of the Great Lakes, in the *Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences* for 1913. The plates used in illustration are not less handsome and attractive than in former papers. A number of species of *Stropharia* are also included in this report.

Mr. Simon Davis, in a recent number of *Rhodora*, gives an account of a large number of interesting gill-fungi collected by him at Stow, Massachusetts. Many of the species are rare and local. Mr. Davis intends now to turn his attention particularly to the genus *Inocybe*, and he will be glad to receive specimens for the study of this genus from any source.

The genus "Muciporus" is discussed by H. O. Juel in a recent number of the *Arkiv för Botanik*, the discussion closing with a list of the known species of the Tulasnellaceae, including *Gloetulasnella* and *Tulasnella*. In a plate showing microscopic studies of *Polyporous corticola* Fries, *Tulasnella thelephorea* is shown to be the original of *Muciporus corticola*.

Miss Elsie M. Prior, in the *Journal of Economic Biology* for 1913, gives an account of her studies on the fungous disease of beech trees known as the "snap-beech" disease, which causes the trunk to break fifteen to twenty feet above ground. This disease is attributed to *Bjerkandera adusta*, which enters the tree by wounds and destroys the wood through the activity of enzymes.

Successful artificial cultures of *Clitocybe illudens* and *Armillaria mellea* on beef-malt-agar medium have been made by V. H. Young of the University of Wisconsin, who gives a brief description of his cultures in the *Botanical Gazette* for June, 1914. The fruit-bodies obtained in the first generation proved to be quite normal, but those in the second spore generation showed striking variations in form.

The temporary suspension of vitality in the fruit-bodies of certain hymenomycetes has been recently studied by A. H. R. Buller and A. T. Cameron, who conclude that dried fruit-bodies of *Dedalea unicolor* exposed in darkness to air at room temperatures are able to retain their vitality for at least seven years, and those of *Schizophyllum alneum* will remain alive under similar circumstances for nearly six years.

In the *Journal of Agricultural Research* for May, 1914, James R. Weir describes *Fomes putearius* and *Trametes setosus* as new wood-destroying fungi in the forests of the Northwest. The former is said to be closely related to *Pyropolyporus conchatus*, but always occurs on coniferous wood, with a preference for the larch; while the latter, occurring chiefly on *Pinus monticola*, seems to be most closely related to *Hapalopilus gilvus*.

Paul W. Graff reports several additions to the basidiomycetous flora of the Philippines in the *Philippine Journal of Science for November, 1913*, among them *Exidia lagunensis*, *Laschia philippensis*, *Lentinus candidus*, *Lentinus lagunensis*, *Volvaria pruinosa*, *Naucoria malinensis*, and *Bovista Jonesii*, described by him as new. From a study of fresh specimens of *Hexagona luzonensis* Murrill, he concludes that this species belongs in the genus *Laschia* and transfers it to that genus.

In the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* for March, 1914, a paper appeared by Mr. L. O. Overholts on the Polyporaceae of Ohio, which listed about 100 species found within the state, of which 78 were collected by Mr. Overholts. Duplicates of most of these species were sent to the New York Botanical Garden for determination and verification and are now in the Garden herbarium. The paper contains descriptions of all the species listed, together with notes on their occurrence, hosts, and distinguishing characters. With the aid of this paper, students should find little or no difficulty in recognizing practically all of the pileate polypores of Ohio.

In the last number of the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden*, E. A. Burt presents his first paper on "The Thelephoraceae of North America," which, we trust, will be rapidly followed by other much needed contributions to the knowledge of this important and difficult family. It will be a surprise to some, perhaps, to find *Exobasidium* among the twenty genera of the Euthelephoreae recognized by the author. The twenty-three known North American species of *Thelephora* are discussed in full, with synonyms, descriptions, and a list of specimens examined. *Thelephora scissilis* from the state of Washington, *T. magnispora* from Jamaica, and *T. perplexa* from Cuba are described as new.

An important collection of fungi from Texas, consisting of 100 numbers, collected by Dr. Fredrick McAllister assisted by students of the botanical department of the University of Texas, was recently sent in for determination by Professor I. M. Lewis, head of the department. Several of the more perishable species were accompanied by good field notes. Duplicates of nearly half of the collection were reserved for the Garden herbarium. These include *Inonotus texanus*, *I. juniperinus*, *Pyropolyporus texanus*, *Simblum sphaerocephalum*, *Calvatia craniiformis*, *Mycenastrum corium*, *Phellorina californica*, *Gyrophragmium texense*, and several species of *Tylostoma*.

A splendid collection of gill-fungi and polypores, containing nearly one hundred specimens accompanied by excellent field notes, was recently sent to the Garden for determination by Professor W. A. Setchell, of the University of California, who was assisted by the students and instructors of the department of botany in the collection and preparation of this material. This collection forms an important addition to the Garden herbarium and adds a number of new species to the list of known California fungi. A few of the specimens will probably prove new to science when the collection is more fully studied. Attention is called to the following species: *Agaricus californicus*, *Agaricus crocodilinus*, *Agaricus placomyces*, *Agaricus silvicola*, *Clitocybe oreades*, *Crepidotus calolepis*, *Cryptoporus volvatus*, *Gomphidius oregonensis*,

Gomphidius vinicolor, *Lepiota rhacodes*, *Pholiota candicans*, *Pholiota ventricosa*, *Stropharia ambigua*, *Tricholoma sordidum*, and *Venenarius muscarius*.

The death of chestnuts and oaks due to *Armillaria mellea* is the subject of a professional paper recently published by W. H. Long, forest pathologist at Washington, after a special study of this disease near New Berlin, New York, and Brim, North Carolina, in both of which localities the chestnut canker is at present absent. He finds that *Armillaria mellea* can become an active parasite under favorable conditions, especially in chestnuts and oaks, killing not only suppressed trees in the forest, but also those that are growing under more favorable conditions; and he believes that this fungus has been an important factor in the gradual recession of the chestnut in parts of the southeastern United States.

In Oregon and the adjoining states, where *Armillaria mellea* attacks fruit trees to a considerable extent, Mr. H. P. Barss has recommended the removal of all affected dead roots and bark, disinfection with Bordeaux mixture or corrosive sublimate solution, and the covering of the wounds with paint or grafting wax.

A NEW FUNGOUS PART OF NORTH AMERICAN FLORA

Volume 10, part 1, of NORTH AMERICAN FLORA, by William A. Murrill, containing descriptions of 281 species of the white-spored series of gill-fungi, appeared July 28, 1914. The contents of the part are indicated in the following table:

		Genera	Total Species	New Species
Clitocybe, in part	=	Laccaria	5	
Tricholoma	= {	Melanoleuca	119	24
		Cortinellus	11	3
Pleurotus, in part	=	Pleurotus	1	
Armillaria	=	Armillaria	14	
Lepiota	= {	Limacella	9	
		Lepiota	88	10
		Chlorophyllum	1	
Amanitopsis	=	Vaginata	7	
Amanita	=	Venenarius	26	2
			<hr/>	
			281	39

For the accommodation of those who desire to use currently accepted generic names, the following new combinations are proposed for species described as new or newly named in *Cortinellus*, *Limacella*, *Melanoleuca*, and *Venenarius*:

CORTINELLUS CINNAMOMEUS	= Tricholoma cinnamomeum
CORTINELLUS GLATFELTERI	= Tricholoma Glatfelteri
CORTINELLUS MUTIFOLIUS	= Tricholoma mutifolium
LIMACELLA ALBISSIMA	= Lepiota albissima
MELANOLEUCA ALABAMENSIS	= Tricholoma alabamense
MELANOLEUCA ANGUSTIFOLIA	= Tricholoma angustifolium
MELANOLEUCA AROMATICA	= Tricholoma aromaticum
MELANOLEUCA COMPRESSIPES	= Tricholoma compressipes
MELANOLEUCA EARLEAE	= Tricholoma Earleae
MELANOLEUCA EDURIFORMIS	= Tricholoma eduriforme
MELANOLEUCA FUMOSELLA	= Tricholoma fumosellum
MELANOLEUCA INOCYBIFORMIS	= Tricholoma inocybiforme
MELANOLEUCA KAUFFMANII	= Tricholoma Kauffmanii
MELANOLEUCA LONGIPES	= Tricholoma longipes
MELANOLEUCA MEMMINGERI	= Tricholoma Memmingeri
MELANOLEUCA NAUCORIA	= Tricholoma Naucoria
MELANOLEUCA ODORIFERA	= Tricholoma odoriferum
MELANOLEUCA PRAECOX	= Tricholoma praecox
MELANOLEUCA PRAEMAGNA	= Tricholoma praemagnum
MELANOLEUCA ROBINSONIAE	= Tricholoma Robinsoniae
MELANOLEUCA SUBACIDA	= Tricholoma subacidum
MELANOLEUCA SUBARGILLACEA	= Tricholoma subargillaceum
MELANOLEUCA SUBCINEREIFORMIS	= Tricholoma subcinereiforme
MELANOLEUCA SUBFULIGINEA	= Tricholoma subfuligineum
MELANOLEUCA SUBRESPLENDENS	= Tricholoma subresplendens
MELANOLEUCA SUBTERREA	= Tricholoma subterreum
MELANOLEUCA SUBTRANSMUTANS	= Tricholoma subtransmutans
MELANOLEUCA THOMPSONIANA	= Tricholoma Thompsonianum
MELANOLEUCA TOTTENII	= Tricholoma Tottenii
MELANOLEUCA UNAKENSIS	= Tricholoma unakense
MELANOLEUCA VOLKERTII	= Tricholoma Volkertii
MELANOLEUCA YATESII	= Tricholoma Yatesii
VENENARIUS LANEI	= Amanita Lanei
VENENARIUS ROSEITINCTUS	= Amanita roseitincta
VENENARIUS VIRGINIANUS	= Amanita virginiana

W. A. MURRILL